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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

ART UNIT: 1648

KING ET AL.

EXAMINER: LI, BAO Q.

APPLICATION NO: UNKNOWN

FILED: DECEMBER 12, 2003

FOR: IN VITRO SYSTEM FOR REPLICATION OF RNA-DEPENDENT

RNA POLYMERASE (RDRP) VIRUSES

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

The present Amendment is being submitted concurrently with a divisional application of Application Serial No. 10/066,130. Applicants respectfully request that the subject patent application be amended as follows.